

**Kitchigami Regional Library System
Board Meeting, June 12, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Kitchigami Headquarters Building, Pine River, MN**

Board members present: Scott Bruns (Cass Co.), Jeremy Engholm (Park Rapids), Neil Tobiason (Longville), George Deiss (Wadena), Tom Krueger (Hubbard Co.), Brent Norman (Pine River), Jamie Lee (Crow Wing Co.), Mary Koep (Brainerd), Murlyn Kreklau (Wadena Co.).

Board members present by interactive technology: Donald Johnson (Blackduck, alt.), Joe Gould (Beltrami Co.)

Board members absent: Diane “Annie” Sevenich (Cass Lake), Mary Beth Hansen (Walker), Lynn Eaton (Bemidji)

Others present non-voting: KRLS Director Melissa Whatley

Chair Tom Krueger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and requested participation in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

KRLS Oath of Office None.

Approval of Agenda **Motion by George Deiss, seconded by Jeremy Engholm, to approve the agenda.** Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Scott Bruns, Jeremy Engholm, Neil Tobiason, George Deiss, Tom Krueger, Brent Norman, Jamie Lee, Mary Koep, Murlyn Kreklau, Donald Johnson.

Public Input There was no public input.

Consent Agenda **Motion by Murlyn Kreklau, seconded by Brent Norman, to approve the consent agenda Items A-D.**

- a. Minutes: May 2025**
- b. Bills: April – May 2025**
- c. Financial Statements: 2025 YTD**
- d. Director’s Report**

Yes: Scott Bruns, Jeremy Engholm, Neil Tobiason, George Deiss, Tom Krueger, Brent Norman, Jamie Lee, Mary Koep, Murlyn Kreklau, Donald Johnson. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Mary Beth Hansen joined the meeting virtually at 6:08 p.m.

Old Business --
2026 KRLS Budget
Development There was discussion regarding the preparation and review of the city/county first draft budgets in preparation of finalizing it at the July board meeting.

New Business --
FY2026 Regional Library Basic
System Support (RLBSS)
Application

Motion by George Deiss, seconded by Mary Koep, that the Board approve signature and submission of the FY2026 RLBSS Application. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Scott Bruns, Jeremy Engholm, Neil Tobiason, George Deiss, Tom Krueger, Brent Norman, Jamie Lee, Mary Koep, Murlyn Kreklau, Donald Johnson. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Joe Gould joined the meeting virtually at 6:23 p.m.

Compensation Quotes
Received

The Board discussed quotes received for a KRLS compensation / classification study.

Motion by Mary Koep, seconded by Murlyn Kreklau, to table the board discussion until July when the board members have been able to discuss the studies with their constituents. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Scott Bruns, Neil Tobiason, Brent Norman, Mary Koep, Murlyn Kreklau, Donald Johnson. No: Jeremy Engholm, George Deiss, Tom Krueger, Jamie Lee, Joe Gould. **Motion carried 6 to 5.**

Chair's Report

Chair Krueger said that he'd had the audit interview that day and asked if the related party questionnaire he'd signed had included only the 2024 board members. Director Whatley confirmed that it was meant only for 2024 board members to sign and that 2025 board members will be asked to sign a questionnaire at the end of 2025.

Chair Krueger also asked that board members be sure to look at the financial pages in their packets and bring up any questions for discussion at the meetings.

Motion by George Deiss, seconded by Mary Koep, to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Scott Bruns, Jeremy Engholm, Neil Tobiason, George Deiss, Tom Krueger, Brent Norman, Jamie Lee, Mary Koep, Murlyn Kreklau, Donald Johnson, Joe Gould. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Svetlana Maria Lang.

Minutes signed by Board Secretary Brent Norman _____

Date _____